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NSW regional statistics released today

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has released a range of regional statistics for New South Wales today in the publication **Regional Statistics New South Wales 2003**.

The publication includes information on remoteness, labour force status, educational attainment, crime, population, births and deaths, building statistics, hotels and motels and local council financial data for different regions in the state.

Some interesting highlights include:

- The Fairfield-Liverpool Statistical Region (SR) had the highest unemployment rate (9.3%) in the Sydney Region, in January 2003. The Wollongong SR had the highest unemployment rate (12.5%) for the remainder of NSW.
- Inner Sydney and Inner Western Sydney SRs had the highest rate of household crime in Sydney (19.7%) in 2001, as well as the highest rate of personal crime at (8.4%). The Hunter SR had the highest rate of household crime outside Sydney (11.6%) while the Illawarra and South Eastern SRs had the highest rate of personal crime (6.3%).
- Blacktown had the greatest natural population increase in 2001 of 3,373 (4,522 births and 1,149 deaths). Great Lakes had the largest natural population decrease of 91 (253 births and 344 deaths).
- The Eastern Suburbs Sydney SR had the highest proportion of employee teleworkers (14.7%) who had worked at home for at least one half day in the three month period from July to September 2001.
- The age dependency ratio, which compares the number of persons aged 0-14 and 65 years and over to the number of persons of typical working age (15-64), was highest in Great Lakes (73.9%), and lowest in Sydney (19.5%).

Further details are in **Regional Statistics New South Wales 2003** (cat. no. 1362.1).

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